

Health News

Monroe County Medical Society Honors Two

The Monroe County Medical Society has recognized physician Cynthia Angel and Burton S. August with its 2015 Edward Mott Moore Awards.

The Edward Mott Moore Award is named after Edward Mott Moore, a prominent physician, teacher, investigator and community leader who resided in Rochester. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the 193-year-old society. It is presented annually to a physician and layperson in recognition of outstanding and dedicated service to the medical profession and the community beyond the usual call of duty. The awards were presented at the society's annual meeting May 6 at the Irondequoit Country Club in Rochester.

"These two outstanding individuals were selected after a thorough review process conducted by the Monroe County Medical Society Awards Committee," said Nancy Adams, Monroe County Medical Society executive director.

With more than three decades of service in Rochester, Angel is well-known among the local medical community and patients alike as a compassionate leader in advancing care for women with cancer. Many of her colleagues and patients say that the doctor does not just treat patients, she treats the whole person. She forms relationships with patients and is by their side every step of the way, even if that means taking time away from her own family.

Angel started her career as an intern and today is a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Rochester. Among many other accomplishments, Angel also led Highland Hospital's efforts to earn the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval in 2012 for uterine and ovarian cancer, making the hospital the third in the country to earn such a designation at that time. She is an expert robotic surgeon and has given women in our community greater access to minimally invasive surgery.

Reaching the age of 100 is an exceptional accomplishment, and Burton S. August is no stranger to achievement. Well known as an outstanding leader in the community, his generosity and commitment is weaved throughout a lifetime of giving to the community.

A native of Rochester, August came from humble beginnings. In 1936 he joined he joined Michaels-Stern & Co., where he learned the men's clothing manufacturing business from

the ground up. In 1969 he joined his brother Charles, the founder of Monro Muffler Brake. Before retiring in 1980, he played a major role in building the business from an eight store local business into a highly respected regional chain operating more than fifty automotive service centers.

Committed to serving the community, August's civic and philanthropic work dates back to the 1920s when he became a Boy Scout. He has been a supporter of scouting in Rochester ever since and was honored by the Boy Scouts of America with their Distinguished Citizen Award in 1984 for his long standing commitment and support. He has more than seven decades of support to the United Way of Greater Rochester, holding many leadership roles at both the local and regional levels. In 1989 he was honored by the United Way with their Alexis de Tocqueville Society Award for his lifelong volunteer commitment.

August has also been involved with and supports Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Hillside Children's Center, the Al Sigi Center, the Mary Cariola Center, the Strong Museum, Roberts Wesleyan College, the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, Temple Sinai and other ecumenical and interfaith efforts, as well as several local home care service agencies.

New Appointments at St. Ann's Community

St Ann's Community, a nonprofit healthcare and housing system serving seniors across a full continuum of care on two campuses in the Greater Rochester area, has recently made the following appointments:

- Susan Murty has been promoted to vice president and administrator.

She previously held the position of administrator at St. Ann's Care Center in Webster and prior to receiving her nursing home administrator license in 2010, spent 12 years working in social work.

Murty has a bachelor's degree in psychology and master's degree in social work. She volunteers her time serving on several local boards including Irondequoit FaithLink and Visiting Nurse Services quality and compliance board. Murty co-founded St. Ann's Leadership Academy and received the "Partner in Philanthropy Award" in 2014.

- Tony Coccitto has been hired as executive director of strategic partnerships. He will provide a strategic plan to identify future customers, health partners and market opportunities

Remember Garden Poem Dedication



Sister Grace Miller of The House of Mercy and Gillian Conde, vice president at DePaul Properties, during a dedication of a plaque at the Remember Garden designed to raise awareness to mental health issues.

In an effort to maintain increased awareness to the plight of those with a mental health diagnosis and to eradicate the stigma associated with mental illness, DePaul held a special event at the Remember Garden in Rochester's Highland Park on May 19.

The Remember Garden is a living memorial to those who died while institutionalized at the Monroe County Insane Asylum, Alms-house and Penitentiary, some 900 of whom were buried in an unmarked mass grave, which was discovered at Highland Park in 1984. In 2009, a group of community members led by Gillian Conde, vice president at DePaul Properties, came together to plant a garden at the site of the grave.

At the May event, a plaque with a poem about the Remember Garden written by Mary Lee Pifer was installed and the piece recited by the poet.

"I was inspired to write this when I came for the Remember Garden dedication," said Pifer. "The stones seem to speak to me and told me write this poem. I felt their stories needed to be told and they deserved the respect they were denied."

In addition, Michael Keene, author of "Mad House," which details the hidden histories of 19th century insane asylums in New York, shared stories of lives lived in these institutions.

Sister Grace Miller of The House of Mercy concluded the event, which was designed to honor individuals as well as raise awareness, with a blessing for those buried at the site.

"The callous mass burial of people with mental illness, one on top of another, with no love, no compassion, no care, no heart, should never have happened," said Sister Grace Miller, pictured with Conde below.

that support the strategic growth of St. Ann's Community.

Prior to joining St. Ann's, he served as a managing partner for The Premier Partners for 11 years where he provided workforce consulting and executive search services to the senior care industry.

Coccitto is married with two daughters residing in Spencerport. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Alfred University.

- Nurse Barbara Robertson has been promoted to director of nursing.



Robertson

Robertson has more than 20 years of experience working in nursing and has been with St. Ann's since 2008.

Prior to joining St. Ann's Community, she served as the chairwoman of nursing and dean of academic services at Monroe Community College.